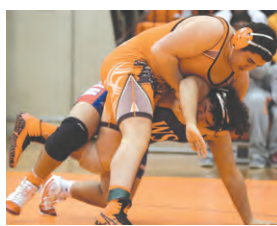




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AGAWAM

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HOUSING

No town funds for 40B project

By Michael Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Way Finders won't get a penny from Agawam taxpayers, after four city councilors held a hard line against spending on the controversial affordable housing project last week.

The nonprofit developer had requested \$564,000 in funds from the Community Preservation Act — a fund outside the regular town budget designed to be spent on community needs such as housing — for its planned 63-unit apartment complex at 586 Mill St., Feeding Hills. Several councilors made it clear, in discussion at their Feb. 18 and March 4 meetings, that they sided with the residents who have opposed the project since it was first announced in 2016.

"These people come in here with their 40B and they circumvent our laws," said Councilor Robert Rossi. "We here in Agawam have a right to make our own decisions on how we want to live."

Under the provisions of Chapter 40B of state law, the Rosewood Way project does not have to follow local zoning — which would not have allowed such density in an agricultural zone — as long as it contributes to the town's affordable housing stock. That is because only 4 percent of Agawam's housing units are subsidized as "affordable" to a family making 80 percent of the region's median income. The state target for all cities and towns is 10 percent.

Because of the local need for affordable housing, not all residents opposed the project. Before debate among councilors began, resident Richard Treganowan spoke up in favor of the spending. "I think it's a good idea," he said. "We need affordable housing. We're not putting our local people first, and that's a problem."

HOUSING | page 3

SCIENCE PAIR



Above: Science teacher Tammy Rumluk blows bubbles at second grader Riley Tierney in front of her display on the science of soap bubbles at the Clark School STEAM Fair last week. More photos, page 16.

PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

Right: Family members of Clark School students make their way around the various science projects displayed in the school's gym last Thursday night. This was the 14th annual exhibition of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) projects at the school.



HIGH SCHOOL

AHS renovation would address roof leaks, science labs

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Outdated science labs, small classrooms, antiquated boilers, an overburdened heating and ventilation system, a leaking roof, and inadequate handicap accessibility are among several issues plaguing AHS.

The school — built in 1955 with additions in 1961, 1980, 1997, and 2001 — isn't obsolete but is outdated in many areas, officials said this month. To address these problems and modernize the school, the School Committee is asking the City Council to apply for a Massachusetts School Building Authority grant for high school renovation projects. The council will consider the request at an upcoming meeting.

Although there is no cost to submit the application, which must be submitted in early April,



Agawam High School Principal Tom Schnepf points to an outdated hood and exhaust system in one of the science classrooms built in 1980. These facilities would be replaced in a renovation plan proposed last month. PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

there is also no guarantee the project will be accepted. MSBA funds from 31 percent to 80 percent of school construction and

renovation projects.

School Superintendent Steve Lemanski said the project's goal is to improve the "overall environ-

ACCESSIBILITY

Architect recommends \$9M Town Hall addition

By Michael Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Renovating Agawam's 74-year-old Town Hall and bringing it up to accessibility codes will cost millions of dollars, an architect told the City Council this week.

Steve McAlister of Clark & Green Architecture Design in Great Barrington presented five options, three of which preserve the current split-level design, with three stories in the front of the building and two stories in the back, offset by half a flight of stairs from the floors in the front. The 1946 design is hard to accommodate in today's world, McAlister said at a March 10 City Council workshop meeting.

"It was very clever for the

ACCESSIBILITY | page 2

ment" at AHS. He said the total cost is unknown at this time.

"As we gather additional information on each area of concern, our work with building maintenance will provide us with the costs," he said. He added: "Providing appropriate space to work on experiments and active learning will be a focus for improvements."

Lemanski, the high school's former principal, said science classroom layouts in the 1980 addition don't allow students to safely perform labs and investigations. Some rooms are former art rooms and three classrooms were designed solely for lectures.

In addition, one science class is located in a temporary space within the library-media center. When students need to conduct lab experiments, the teacher must coordinate with other teachers to

RENOVATION | page 4



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NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

Dietitian to speak for Nat’l Nutrition Month

Registered dietician Nicole Frank-Maslar will share her professional expertise next week in a National Nutrition Month talk at the Agawam Public Library.

Frank-Maslar is the owner and founder of Pyramid Nutrition Services in Springfield. She holds bachelor of science degrees in biology from Western New England College and in

nutrition and dietetics from Life University. For more information, visit pyramidnutritionservices.com.

She will speak at 7 p.m. Monday, March 16, about creating achievable and sustainable healthy living choices. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam. Attendance is free, but advance registration is requested at 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or www.agawamlibrary.org.

Multicultural festival won’t be held this month

The Agawam Family and Community Program announced this week that it has canceled the Multicultural Festival originally scheduled for March 28.

Organizers also announced a time change for Shake, Shimmy and Dance,

a program for preschoolers. It will take place 10-11 a.m. Friday, March 20, at LHQ Danceforce on Main Street.

For all event registrations and questions, email Erin Cosgrove at ecosgrove@agawamed.org or call 413-821-0597.

Auction scheduled next Saturday at St. David’s

St. David’s Church will host an auction 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 21, with a preview beginning at noon.

Admission and parking are free, and free refreshments will be offered. Items to be auctioned include bountiful gift baskets, new appliances, gift cards, sports memorabil-

ia, homemade crafts, children’s toys, and more. All are welcome.

For more information, call 413-786-6133 or visit www.stdavidsagawam.org.

St. David’s is at 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, next door to the police station. Sunday services are at 8 and 10 a.m.

Rep. touts \$125K for housing

State Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, R-Southwick, recently announced that Agawam will receive \$152,250 as part of the state’s Gateways Housing Rehabilitation Program. These funds will assist in the rehabilitation of five housing units for low- and middle-income residents in town.

The Gateways program is a new fund available for eligible communities to address troubled properties in need of rehabilitation, a priority for cities and towns with an older housing stock. It was created as a result of the Act Financing the Production and Preservation of Housing for Low and Moderate Income Residents signed by Gov. Charlie Baker in 2018.

“Our administration recognizes that the commonwealth is only as strong as its diverse cities and towns, and we are committed to investing in healthy neighborhoods and vibrant communities in every region,” said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. “Housing that is stable and affordable to a range of incomes is central to building great communities, and today’s investments will put dozens of housing units back to good use as homes for low and middle-income individuals, including many seniors.”

The Department of Housing and Community Development identified a total of 31 communities, including the state’s 26 low-income Gateway Cities, as eligible for this competitively awarded funding.

“The Gateways Housing Rehabilitation Program will assist with crucial improvements to the city’s housing,” said Boldyga. “It’s always great working with Gov. Charlie Baker, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, and Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy to continue to improve homes in Agawam and help our low income residents repair and keep their homes in good standing, ensuring Agawam will remain an attractive and outstanding community for our residents in the years to come.”

This week, Christopher Dunphy of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission said the grant for Agawam will allow the town to extend an existing housing rehabilitation program for senior citizens.

Boldyga represents Agawam, Granville and Southwick in the state House of Representatives. He can be reached at 413-569-3137, ext. 103, or Nicholas.Boldyga@mahouse.gov.

Abigail Adams to visit Historical Assn.

Abigail Adams will visit the Agawam Historical Association this month.

The 18th century first lady will be interpreted by Sheryl Faye Presents Historical Women at the association’s member meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, in the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main St., Agawam. This presentation is free and open to all, and sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council.

The Agawam Historical Association, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, has been part

of the Agawam community for many years with the mission to preserve the town’s history and artifacts and educate the citizens of Agawam. It owns and operates the 1757 Thomas Smith House on North West Street, Feeding Hills, the oldest existing house in Agawam, as well as the Fire House Museum on Elm Street in Agawam, which houses antique fire trucks and apparatus on the ground floor and contains artifacts, memorabilia and exhibits from Agawam and neighboring areas on the second floor.

St. Pat’s Committee to hold Irish Night

Agawam’s “Irish Season” is in full swing, and the Agawam St. Patrick’s Committee will hold its annual Irish Night dinner 5-9 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at Oak Ridge Golf Club, 850 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

Tickets are \$20 per person. For reservations, text Laurie O’Connell at 413-519-1071 or email her at laurie822@comcast.

net with each guest’s meal choice, corned beef or chicken Francais.

The evening will include a Chinese raffle, including chances for a lottery tree, Red Sox tickets and a large screen TV. To round out the fun, there will be a demonstration of Irish dancing from the Cassin Academy of Dance.

ACCESSIBILITY ■ from page 1

times, and well done and economical,” he said. “The problem is, there was not much concern for people with disabilities, or for aging people who can no longer do stairs.”

The other two options would demolish all or most of the back half of the building and construct a new back half with floors aligned to the front. It’s those two options that McAlister recommends, at an estimated price tag around \$9 million.

The study of the Town Hall was funded by a state grant last year. Although both Mayor William Sapelli and his predecessor, Richard Cohen, have made renovating or relocating the Town Hall a long-range goal, the City Council has not committed to funding it. Sapelli said his administration is not committed to any renovation plan, and he is open to building a new Town Hall on a separate site.

Council President Christopher Johnson questioned whether any price tag would be worth renovating the current building.

“It is not an efficient building,” said Johnson. “It’s not laid out for the needs of today.”

Johnson said he is the only one on the council who has actually worked in the building, having served as mayor during the 1990s. He said rather than spending money to shoehorn accessibility into a building with other drawbacks, he’d rather see the town design a new facility to accommodate actual staffing and better serve the actual workflow of Town Hall departments.

Councilor George Bitzas was wary of the demolition-and-addition plan, too — because he wants to see the current Town Hall preserved as close to its historical design as possible.

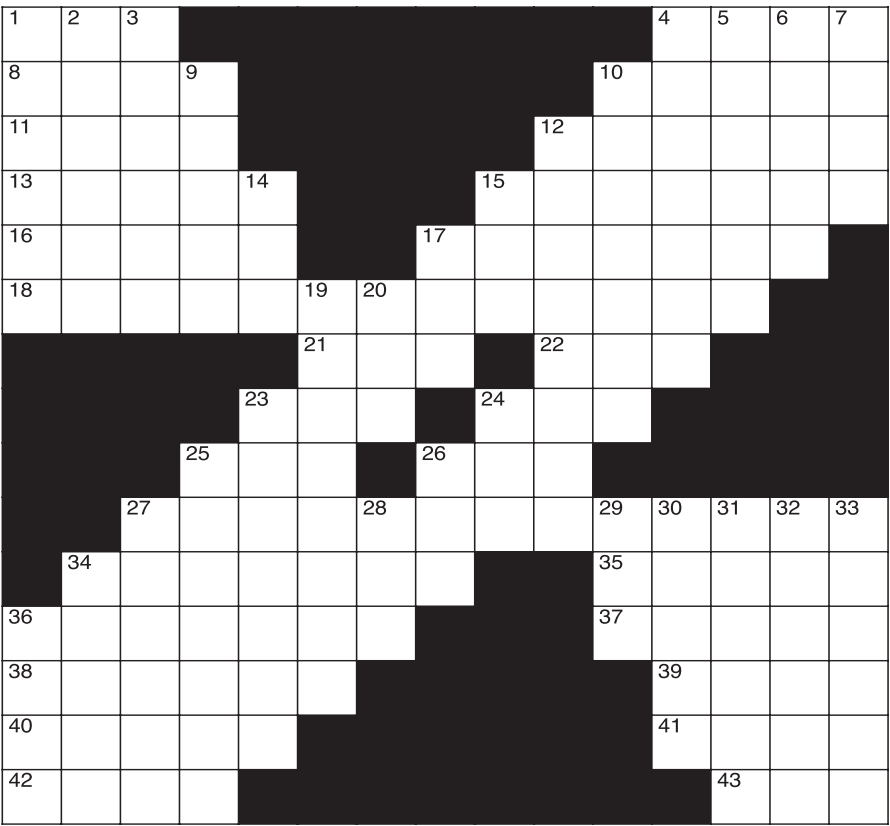
The three less-expensive options all involve using an elevator with two doors — one for the three main levels in the front of the building, and one for the two split levels in back. Because the offices in the back half of Town Hall open directly onto staircase landings, retrofitting the building for accessibility is more complex than simply adding an elevator. No matter where the elevator is placed, it also means giving up a substantial amount of office space for new corridors.

One relatively simple design, with an estimated cost between \$1.25 million and \$1.75 million, would place the elevator near the existing ramp on the building’s southwestern side. This would involve “significant wasted circulation space” in the form of “maze-like” corridors, the plans admit.

Another option places the elevator in a more central location, near the rear entrance. The estimated cost is much higher, however, at \$5.93 million. The third option, estimated at \$6.63 million, calls for the construction of an elevator tower beside the building, which means less disruption of the existing offices, but inconvenient routes for those using the elevator to access offices on the opposite side of the building.

Johnson noted that any renovation of Town Hall would also have to include finding temporary homes for the offices displaced by the construction project.

On the other hand, noted Councilor Dino Mercadante, moving to a new location also comes with an add-on cost: refitting the current Town Hall to some other new use. He said any new use of the building would probably also require a renovation to meet Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility standards.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A team’s best pitcher
- 4. Designer Jacobs
- 8. Hip joint
- 10. A dialect of English
- 11. Portrays
- 12. Panic
- 13. The head of a team
- 15. High priest
- 16. League of Legends locale
- 17. Protective folds
- 18. Treats allergies
- 21. Voodoo spirits
- 22. Single unit
- 23. Unit of measurement
- 24. Brew
- 25. Burundian franc

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Warm climate tree or shrub
- 2. Silky case spun by larvae
- 3. Still in existence
- 4. Light, two-stranded rope
- 5. Wear away
- 6. Beginnings
- 7. Essence
- 9. American Standard Code for Information Interchange
- 10. Path
- 12. Repeated tones
- 14. Expresses surprise
- 15. Monetary unit of Burma
- 17. When you hope to get there
- 19. Brighten
- 20. Fifth note of a

CLUES ACROSS

- 26. Self
- 27. Bengals great
- 34. Making letters overlap
- 35. Piece of pizza
- 36. Illegal drug
- 37. Card game
- 38. The highest point in the development
- 39. Oh, God!
- 40. Wives (law)
- 41. Monetary unit of Samoa
- 42. Supplements with difficulty
- 43. Valentine’s Day color

CLUES DOWN

- 23. Dark brown timbers of tropical trees
- 24. We all do it
- 25. Scrounges
- 26. Unit of energy
- 27. Begin to be
- 28. Midway between northeast and east
- 29. Distinctive practice
- 30. Succulent plants
- 31. Performer
- 32. Gas station term
- 33. Required
- 34. Soviet monetary unit
- 36. Eating house

Jazz group adds heart to old standards

The Agawam Cultural Council's Applause Series continues Friday, April 3, when Too Human presents an evening of jazz standards from the Great American Songbook. This free performance at the Agawam Senior Center will begin at 7 p.m. Doors open at 954 Main St., Agawam, at 6:15 p.m.

The performance promises innovation, passion and humor as Too Human presents fresh arrangements of jazz classics with vocals, guitar, percussion and upright bass. Too Human combines Ellen Bruno's earthy voice with Roger Bruno's unusual percussion style and stirring vocals. Sweet harmonies, unusual arrangements and mouth trombone are the musical elements that frame their performance, as well as their on-stage chemistry, humor and passion.

The production sponsor for Too Human is HP Hood. The Agawam Cultural Council also thanks the Agawam Special Police, Elaine Carlson, OMG Inc., TD Bank, and Way Finders Inc. for their support as Applause Series season sponsors. Additional information on each of the Applause Series events is available at www.agawamcc.org.



The Applause Series continues with a concert of jazz standards by Too Human on April 3. The trio consists of, from left, Roger Bruno, Ellen Bruno and Mike Lawrence. SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that provides part of its funding. The Cultural Council is charged with

bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

Prayer group forms for families, friends of fallen-away Catholics

The St. Monica Club will meet for an evening of prayer, reflection and discussion at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 833 Main St., Agawam.

All are welcome to join this group of Catholics waiting, hoping and praying for their friends and family who have fallen away from their faith. The St. Monica Club is for anyone who wonders how to cope with these

changes and love them best; worries about their future or even ends up in conflicts with loved ones.

"Let's share our concerns as we unite together in prayer for our loved ones," organizers said in a statement. "Come and give your burden to God."

There will be a short talk on these topics, and time in prayer and adoration, followed by discussion and refreshments in the lower church.

Library pajama drive is ending this week

The Agawam Public Library is partnering with the Boston Bruins to collect new children's and teen pajamas through March 15.

These pajamas will then be given to local Department of Children and Families agencies and distributed to families who need them. Pajamas may be dropped off in the Children's Room at the library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

HOUSING ■ from page 1

Putting locals first was another point of contention for councilors. Way Finders has said that the town can request that 70 percent of the housing units be allocated through a lottery open only to families with individuals who currently live, work or go to school in Agawam. The decision on whether to have a local lottery is up to the state government, however.

Some councilors argued that the town needed to contribute financially to the project to show state officials that it enjoys local support, which would make the state more likely to grant a local preference lottery.

"You want to show the state some good faith," said Councilor Dino Mercadante.

Others refused to support the project because the lottery is not guaranteed, and because they felt a locally led project would better serve local needs.

"It is taxpayers' money. It's our money from our pockets," said Councilor George Bitzas. "You can use this money more wisely to benefit Agawam seniors and families with children. We don't want to waste taxpayers' money, Agawam people's money, on a private company."

For Councilor Gerald Smith, the problem with spending CPA funds on Rosewood Way is the lack of a guarantee that senior citizens already living in Agawam would benefit

from the project. He said CPA housing funds should be spent on helping seniors.

Councilor Gina Letellier responded, "If we want to get housing for seniors, this is the fastest way to do it."

Corinne Wingard, a member of the Housing Committee, told councilors that it would be illegal to restrict a Chapter 40B project by age, but that senior citizens are almost guaranteed to be among the residents.

"Twenty of the 64 units at Rosewood Way are one-bedroom units, which organically tend to be for seniors," she said. "Think of all the Agawam residents who will qualify."

Henry Kozloski, chairman of the town's CPA Committee, said the debate suffered from a "lack of information" about what is, and is not, legal for CPA spending on housing. He said it would be illegal to spend CPA money on the sort of direct assistance to senior citizens that councilors held up as preferable to a Way Finders project. He also said that using the funds to set up a housing trust, which Bitzas had suggested, would take these sorts of decisions out of the council's hands, and that the purpose of a housing trust is to fund exactly the sort of project that Way Finders is planning. Rejecting CPA funds for Way Finders to save them for other affordable housing projects does not make sense, he said.

"Are you going to be part of the solution, or are you going to say 'no'?" he asked.

The CPA is funded by a

1 percent surcharge on all Agawam property taxes, and by matching grants from the state government, which are funded by property deed filing fees throughout the state. The money can only be spent on capital investments in affordable housing, historical preservation, or open space and recreation.

After councilors called for a lower payment during their Feb. 18 meeting, the first proposal considered last week was an amendment for a \$200,000 payment. It failed by a 5-4 vote, with only Letellier, Mercadante, and councilors Christopher Johnson and Anthony Suffriti voting in favor. Councilor Cecilia Calabrese was not present at the meeting; Mario Tedeschi abstained from all the Way Finders votes.

Letellier suggested a \$250,000 payment, which she said would still be covered by CPA matching funds received from the state, without having to spend any local taxpayer dollars on Way Finders. This amendment gained five votes, as Rosemary Sandlin joined the "yes"

side, but failed because passage requires six votes, representing a majority of the full 11-member council. In a Feb. 18 vote the same five "yes" councilors had supported a \$329,000 payment, and the same four "no" councilors opposed it.

As last month's discussion reached an impasse, Letellier used a "charter objection," a rare parliamentary maneuver, to delay the final vote until the March 4 meeting, in the hopes that she could cobble together six votes on a compromise figure.

Without a successful amendment, the council voted overwhelmingly against the original proposal of \$564,000, with only Sandlin voting "yes" in an 8-1 result.

Last week's vote does not change Way Finders' right to build the project. Rosewood Way went through a long permitting process with the Zoning Board of Appeals. It may delay project funding, though Way Finders is pursuing a variety of state and federal grants and loans to pay for construction.

Mayors to answer your questions on Thursday

Agawam Mayor William Sapelli and his West Side counterpart, Will Reichelt, will discuss happenings in their town and answer submitted questions at a breakfast event next week.

The annual Breakfast with the Mayors will be held 7:30 to 9 a.m. Thursday, March 19, at Storrow-

ton Tavern, 1305 Memorial Ave., on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield.

Tickets are \$35 for Chamber members, \$45 for non-members. For more information, call 413-426-3880, or email info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

Join parish for dinner Sat. with Saints Patrick, Joseph

Sacred Heart Parish will host "Dinner with the Saints," St. Patrick and St. Joseph, Saturday, March 14, at 5 p.m.

Dinner will include corned beef and cabbage, carrots, Irish soda bread

and a dessert. Takeout will be available. Tickets are \$15 per person. To reserve a ticket, call Dan at 413-786-0489. Sacred Heart is at 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.

Library will hear all about women's suffrage leader

Sheryl Faye will present "Susan B. Anthony — Failure is Impossible" at the Agawam Public Library this month.

Faye will examine the prominent role Anthony played in the women's suffrage movement, which led after her death to the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote. She also devoted her life to racial, gender and educational equality.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment's ratifi-

cation, as well as the 200th anniversary of Anthony's birth on Feb. 15, 1820. She died in 1906.

Faye's presentation is at 7 p.m. Monday, March 30, in the library at 750 Cooper St., Agawam. Attendance is free, but space is limited, so registration is recommended at 413-786-1550, ext. 4, or www.agawamlibrary.org. This program is sponsored by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, a local agency funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 481 calls for service March 2-8, and recorded the following arrests. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, March 3

Alexander R. Sampson, 24, of 32 Regency Park Drive, Agawam, was arrested at 6:35 p.m. on Regency Park Drive on a warrant, and also charged with possession of a class A drug, subsequent offense.

Thursday, March 5

Aleksandr A. Shtyba, 30, of 111 Miller St., Westfield, was arrested at 2:29 a.m. on Route 57 on a warrant, and also charged with driving with a revoked license and a marked lanes violation. Mark D. Anderson, 43, of 22 Oriole Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested at 6:37 p.m. on Oriole Drive on a warrant. Marcus Lamont Camp, 17, of 775 Springfield St., Apt. 2B, Feeding Hills, was arrested at 7:56 p.m. on Main Street on two warrants.

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Crafters can donate, shop at free exchange

Next month, the Agawam Public Library will host Craf-terpalooza, a free exchange of art and craft supplies. Donations of leftover or never-used craft materials will be accepted April 6-18 at the library at 750 Cooper St., Agawam. On two days — April 24-25 — anyone who wishes is invited to “shop” for supplies in the library’s Peirce Conference Room, at no charge. One shopping bag will be provided per person, per day. Shoppers do not need to have made a donation to pick up items. Shopping times are 10 a.m. to noon on Friday,

April 24, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 25. Suggestions for items to be donated include art supplies, beads, children’s craft kits, coloring books, craft foam, craft instruction books, glitter, jewelry-making supplies, knitting and crocheting supplies, needlework supplies, ribbon, scrapbooking supplies, silk flowers, stamps and pads, white T-shirts, wood cut-outs and yarn. All donated items must be from a non-smoking home and be clean and in good condition. They should be in their original packaging or clear, zippered bags.

Free outdoor concerts will return this summer

The Parks and Recreation Department announced this month that the SummerFest series of free concerts will return to School Street Park this July and August. As in previous years, concerts will be held weekly on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m., with one Tuesday night concert to coincide with National Night Out. This year’s schedule, subject to weather cancellations, includes Richie Mitnick & Friends (July 1), SDRUM (July 8), Ray Guillemette — King Kountry (July 15), Alex Amato (July 22), Good Acoustics (July 29), Gentleman Jack (Tuesday, Aug. 4), and Kix Country Night (Aug. 12), artists to be announced. More information about each performer will be printed the week before the concert in the Agawam Advertiser News.

National Night Out, on Aug. 4, is a family-friendly event at School Street Park with public safety demonstrations, food, children’s activities and dance performances, followed by the SummerFest concert. Also returning on Wednesday mornings this summer are the three Kids-Fest performances, held at 11 a.m. on the Veterans Green, at the corner of Main and School streets. In the event of rain, the performances are held indoors at the adjacent Phelps School gymnasium. This year’s free children’s performances are Bryson Lang, magician (July 8), Tom “T-Bone” Stankus, musician (July 22), and Michael Menes, variety show (Aug. 5). For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 413-821-0513 or recreation@agawam.ma.us.

Volunteers, new ideas sought at Cultural Council meeting

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam. The meeting is open to the public. There is no cost to join or serve. The Agawam Cultural Council is looking for people who want to have fun and get involved in creating new, interesting events. Anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town should consider joining the Cul-

tural Council. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members. The Cultural Council is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities. For more information, visit www.agawamcc.org.

A	C	E								M	A	R	C
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Library asks parents to watch their kids

The Agawam Public Library recently updated its policy on unattended children. Children ages 10 and younger must be “accompanied and continually supervised” by a caregiver, 14 years and older, at all times while using the library, including when they are in the Children’s Room. These responsible adults must stay in the library building whenever their children are attending library-sponsored programs. Children ages 11 and older are allowed to use the library unattended as long as their conduct is appropriate to the library and not disruptive to other patrons. They must know how to contact a parent or caregiver in case of an emergency. “The responsibility for children using the library rests with the child’s parent/guardian or a designated adult caregiver,” part of the policy reads. “The library staff is responsible for performing library service duties and cannot be responsible for the care or safety of unattended children. The Agawam Public Library assumes no responsibility for children of any age left unattended at the library.” If a medical emergency arises when a child’s parent or guardian is not present, library staff will contact

emergency services first, then the parent or guardian. Staff may also call parents or caregivers, police or other city agencies if a child is left unattended at the library’s closing time, or if a child is asked to leave the library, or in an emergency. Parents are responsible for any damage done by their children to library facilities, equipment and materials. The policy also states that adults are not allowed in the Children’s Room unless accompanied by a child or involved in an appropriate use of children’s library materials.



Greg Schoorens must teach science classes in the rear of the Agawam High School library and media center. When students need to conduct lab experiments, he has to coordinate with other science teachers to use their rooms. PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

RENOVATION ■ from page 1

use one of their classrooms. Course offerings in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) have been expanding, but a majority of the school’s science classrooms are not equipped for 21st century learning, Lemanski said. Safety measures are inadequate. Shawn Rumprik, who heads the science department, said eyewash and chemical shower stations in nine of the 12 older classrooms have no floor drains. “Water comes out very dark. The pipes are corroded, so we can’t flush the pipes — if we did, it will flood the floor.” He added that teachers in older science classrooms have no dedicated prep space. Chemicals are mixed and lab equipment is set up in the same student areas used for teaching. “These rooms have no storage, hot water, and dedicated student lab spaces. We lack facilities to implement hands-on investigations that can prepare students for jobs in the medical and technology fields,” he said.

An addition opened in 1998 houses the school’s newest science classrooms. But in the older rooms, Rumprik said, teachers “make do” by using student desks as lab benches and having students share one classroom sink. “Teachers are doing the best they can with what they have to help prepare students for college,” he said. “It’s time for updating,” said AHS Principal Thomas Schnepf. “Some classrooms have what we need, but several rooms don’t have the proper equipment to do all that we would like to do.” He added that some classrooms don’t have gas hookups or hoods, which prevent teachers from doing certain experiments and demonstrations that would enhance the curriculum. “It really isn’t fair to students not to be able to get all of the hands-on experiences they deserve,” Schnepf said.

Roofs, rodents, ramps

In addition to the problems with the science classrooms, there’s insufficient classroom space to allow teachers dedicated space, requiring them to travel from classroom to classroom to teach different courses. Classrooms in the original section of the building are small, approximately 768 square feet. Class size is an average of 18-plus students. This offers teachers little negotiation space



Science teacher Erik Spiller has to move from room to room on a cart because Agawam High School doesn’t have sufficient space to give him his own classroom.

to utilize board space. Heating, ventilation, and electrical systems were never fully replaced to address additional square footage from new wings to the school. Climate control is unpredictable and unreliable, causing drastic fluctuations in temperature that affects the learning environment. Overburdened heat and ventilation systems constantly need to be repaired and are unable to uniformly or adequately control the school’s climate. They need to be replaced to increase energy efficiency and to decrease energy costs. The current boilers date from the late 1970s and early 1980s. Repairs are more challenging each year due to age and the lack of available and antiquated parts.

Leaks in the roof — which are being patched — are another concern a renovation would address. There are an “inordinate amount” of holes in the roof due to years of storm damage. Repetitive patching problem areas “is not an effective way to address” these long-standing issues, the School Department’s statement of interest reads. “The roof has reached its lifespan,” said Lemanski. Students and teachers are often forced to relocate classes because of flooding, mold, or infestation by insects and rodents. The school’s statement says that these issues “pose reasonable health and safety concerns” for students and staff and don’t allow

for appropriate instruction in designated science classrooms. The majority of windows are original and aren’t energy efficient. In addition, they can’t accommodate screens, creating a potential safety hazard for individuals with bee allergies, if they are opened. Upgrades to the school’s physical structure are needed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility requirements. Emergency egress for disabled students and staff is compromised by the lack of permanent ramp structures and handicap accessible pathways away from the school. There is no automated door entry for handicap access at the main entrances and exits. Many of these problems are the same issues that were raised nearly a decade ago when the town applied to the MSBA for a grant to help fund a new high school. Three applications were submitted. All were rejected by the MSBA.



Shawn Rumprik, who heads the science department at Agawam High School, said eyewash and chemical shower stations like this one in nine of the 12 older classrooms have no floor drains. The pipes are corroded and water can’t be flushed because it will flood the floor.

Schools & Youth

AHS, WSU player to host hoops clinics

Sean Moore, a 2016 Agawam High School graduate and member of the Westfield State University varsity basketball team, is partnering with the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department to offer basketball clinics for kindergartners to eighth graders this spring. Each group will meet four Wednesdays, May 6, 13, 20 and 27, at Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Clinics for kindergarten through second grade will be

5-5:45 p.m. each Wednesday; third and fourth grades, 6-6:45 p.m.; fifth and sixth grades, 7-7:45 p.m.; and seventh and eighth grades, 8-8:45 p.m. Moore spent last summer interning with top college, overseas professional, and NBA coaches and players. His goal is to help players recognize their unique abilities, give them the skills needed to reach higher achievements, and share a love of basketball. Registration costs \$50 per player

and begins Tuesday, April 7, continuing through May 4. Signups may be completed at www.agawam.ma.us (click on “Departments,” then “Parks and Recreation”), or in person at the Parks and Rec office in the Municipal Annex at 1000 Suffield St., Agawam. For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 413-821-0513 or recreation@agawam.ma.us. The office is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays, excluding holidays.

Summer camp signups begin next month

Signups for town Parks and Recreation Department summer camps at Perry Lane Park begin next month. The brochure for summer Parks and Rec programs is now available online at www.agawam.ma.us (click on “Departments,” then “Parks and Recreation”). Perry Lane Summer Camp facilities include an in-ground pool, pavilion, ropes/challenge course, basketball court, two age-appropriate playgrounds, volleyball court and athletic fields. Other activities include arts and crafts, nature education, songs, skits and silliness. Camp will run in four sessions: June 25 to July 2 (no camp on Friday, July 3); July 6-17; July 20-31; and Aug. 3-14. Preschool camp for ages 4-5 (by July 1) runs 9 a.m. to noon at a cost of \$85 for the first session and \$145 each for the other three. The Perry Lane Day Program runs 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for children who are currently in kindergarten to children currently in grade 5; they will be divided into groups based on school grade. The Teen Program also runs 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is for current sixth graders

through age 15. Both full-day camps cost \$130 for the first session, and \$220 each for the other three. Extended Day programs are available for full-day campers (excluding preschool) who need to be dropped off as early as 7:30 a.m. or picked up as late as 5:30 p.m., for an extra cost. Registration begins with a signup session 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 27, in the cafeteria at Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. No registrations will be accepted on Tuesday, April 28. Registrations will continue during office hours Wednesday, April 29, and on subsequent weekdays until each program is full. Registrations will be taken in person only, at the Parks and Rec office at 1000 Suffield St., Agawam. At least half of the cost must be paid at the time of registration; balances must be paid in full by Friday, May 29. Payment at the AJHS session is by cash or check only. Credit cards will also be accepted for payment at the Parks and Rec office, or online for balances after the initial registration is made in person.

For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 413-821-0513 or recreation@agawam.ma.us. The Parks and Rec office is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays, excluding holidays, in the Municipal Annex at 1000 Suffield St., Agawam.

Other programs
Parks and Rec’s summer brochure also includes information about the Agawam Piranhas swim team, which is taking signups in April, and Kids-Fest summer performances, which will include magician Bryson Lang on July 8, musician Tom “T-Bone” Stankus on July 22 and a variety show with Michael Menes on Aug. 5. All performances are at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Veterans Green, at Main and School streets. Details about summer sports programs will be released in May. This summer’s offerings may include basketball, junior golf camp, skateboarding, swimming lessons, tennis lessons, youth track, youth volleyball, and public use of the Agawam High School running track.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL
High schoolers can also substitute a pizza meal for their entrée.
Monday, March 16: Popcorn chicken bowl, whipped potatoes, corn niblets, dinner roll.
Tuesday, March 17: French toast sticks, hash browns, turkey sausage, cinnamon roll, orange juice; or grilled cheese and tomato soup, Goldfish crackers, tater tots, bean salad.
Wednesday, March 18: Chicken fillet wrap with assorted sauce, lettuce, tomato, cheese, side of coleslaw.
Thursday, March 19: Fresh assorted calzones, garden salad with light dressing; or pasta with meatballs, garlic knot, seasoned vegetable.
Friday, March 20: Asian chicken, rice mandarin, broccoli, fortune cookie; or mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, celery and cucumber with dip, garlic knot.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Monday, March 16: Popcorn chicken bowl, mashed potato, corn niblets, dinner roll.
Tuesday, March 17: Mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, veggie sticks with dip, two-grain breadstick.
Wednesday, March 18: Pasta with meat sauce, garlic knot, steamed broccoli, carrots and dip, Goldfish crackers.
Thursday, March 19: Beef taco bowl with shredded cheese, shredded romaine

lettuce, tomatoes, salsa and sour cream, rice and beans.
Friday, March 20: Ultra-grain stuffed crust cheese pizza, garden salad with chickpeas, carrots with dip, cookie.
ROBERTA DOERING SCHOOL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Monday, March 16: Italian dunkers, two cheesy garlic breadsticks with marinara sauce, carrots and celery with dip (Doering) or steamed broccoli (elementary).
Tuesday, March 17: French toast sticks, turkey sausage, hash brown, orange juice.
Wednesday, March 18: Pasta with meat sauce, two-grain garlic breadstick, steamed broccoli.
Thursday, March 19: Beef taco boat with shredded cheese, shredded romaine lettuce, diced tomatoes, rice and beans.
Friday, March 20: Ultra-grain stuffed crust cheese pizza, garden salad with chickpeas, cookie.

BREAKFAST
The daily breakfast entrée menu was not available at press time. All breakfasts include assorted cold cereal, muffins and pastries, cheese sticks, fresh fruit and orange juice.
Serving times: High school, 7 a.m.; junior high, 7:15 a.m.; Granger, 7:55 a.m.; Doering, 8:10 a.m.; Phelps, 8:20 a.m.; Robinson Park, 8:30 a.m.; Clark, 8:35 a.m.

AHS COUNSELING BULLETIN

College acceptances
Congratulations are in order to these students for earning these post-secondary options: Lauren Blanchard, Bay Path University; Jamie-Lyn Cavallon, Florida Institute of Technology, Rutgers University, SUNY Albany, SUNY Brockport, University of Massachusetts at Lowell; Ruby Chenevert, Quinnipiac University; Erin Ewing, Westfield State University; Tessa Fitzgerald, Fitchburg State University; Josiah Lis, Salem State University, Westfield State University; Getuar Preniqi, American International College; Summer Reigles, Curry College, Keene State College, Merrimack College; Robert Taylor II, Western New England University; Nick Thomson, Bridgewater State University; Sydney Trigilio, University of Massachusetts at Amherst; Gianna Yacovone, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; Eric Zheng, St. John’s University, SUNY Binghamton, SUNY Stony Brook.

Special interest programs
Congressman Richard Neal announced that Academy Day begins April 25 at noon. This is a one-day program for students who wish to learn more about the nomination and appointment process to attend a service academy (Army-West Point, Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Academy, Merchant Marine Academy, Naval Academy). Students interested in a ROTC scholarship are also invited to attend. The event will be held at the Springfield Museums, 21 Edward St., Springfield. All participants must be registered by April 17. Registration details are available at neal.house.gov/academy-nominations. The University of Massachusetts at Amherst Disability Services office invites students to learn more about the transition from high school to college. This

is an opportunity for accepted and prospective students with disabilities and their families. The event is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 23, in Furcolo 101. Register by April 10 with Rachel Adams, radams@admin.umass.edu or 413-545-0892, ext. 4. Scholarships totaling over \$200,000 are available at Holyoke Community College, with a deadline of March 25. Many scholarships are geared toward first-year students, and all students who have been accepted for the fall semester is eligible to apply. Students are only required to fill out one application, and will be matched with each of the scholarships they are eligible to receive. For more information or to apply, visit hccscholarship.org. UMass-Amherst has put together an exciting lineup of pre-college programs for the summer of 2020 at umass.edu/summer/programs/academic-programs. In addition to popular returning programs such as the McCormack Sport Leadership Academy, Summer Engineering Institute, Summer Design Academy, and many others, the following are new programs for 2020: Introduction to Programming in Processing; Foundations of Music Theory; Forensic Science: Crime Scene Investigation; Foundations of Data Science; Architectural & Landscape Watercolor Rendering; and Economics of Hunger. If you have questions about these programs, contact Ben Mitchell, Summer Programs Coordinator, at bmitchell@umass.edu. Springfield Technical Community College and Holyoke Community College are again offering the chance for current juniors and seniors to take up to one free course in the fall and spring semesters through the College Now program. This is a great way to earn college credits while in high school

while trying courses that may be helpful in exploring a potential career interest. The spring 2020 courses for STCC are now posted at stcc.edu/explore/schedules/all-spring-2020.
Newly listed scholarships
MassBioEd Henri A. Termeer Student Scholarship: \$2,500 for one outstanding student from Massachusetts who plans to enroll in an eligible four-year life sciences undergraduate program in biology, biotechnology, biochemistry, biological engineering, synthetic biology, or molecular biology. Candidates must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent), demonstrate unmet financial need (applicants with family income up to \$95,000), and be available to accept the award on May 7 in Cambridge. Applications in Naviance. Due March 20.
Pascal A. Deliso Scholarship: For students with distinguished academic ability, regular involvement in community service, commitment to the Roman Catholic faith, at least one parent of Italian descent, and have an acceptance to an accredited two- or four-year college or university. Applications in the Counseling Center. Due April 1.
Dolly Lancaster Scholarship: Offered by Yankee Heritage Tole to a graduating senior who will major in visual arts. Students must have a portfolio with original artwork as part of the application. Applications in the Counseling Center. Due April 10.
Italian Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts Scholarships: \$1,000 or \$500 to graduating seniors of Italian heritage. Application at www.iccwrm.org under the Scholarship tab. More info: Sandra Vella at iccscholarship@comcast.net or 413-784-1492. Due April 15.
Massachusetts Broadcasters

Association Student Broadcaster Scholarship: For eligible students majoring in a broadcast-related field. Applications at massbroadcasters.org. More info: Jordan Walton at 800-471-1875 or jordan@massbroadcaster.org. Due April 17.
The 2020 Student-View Scholarship Program: \$12,000 worth of scholarships to high school seniors who plan to attend a four-year, community/junior college or career school. Applications at www.student-view.com. Due April 22.
Massachusetts Association of Women in Law Enforcement Scholarship: For female students to pursue a degree in criminal justice. Candidates will be evaluated based on their achievements. Applications at mawle.org. Due April 24.
Holyoke Credit Union Scholarships: Three \$500 scholarships. For high school seniors who will be enrolled in an undergraduate college degree program in 2020-21. The applicant or parent/guardian must be a member in good standing with the Holyoke Credit Union. Applications in Naviance. Due April 30.
Nextiva Scholarship: \$1,000 for eligible high school juniors or seniors who plan to major in a business or STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) program, have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Details at www.nextiva.com/scholarship. Due May 1.
Disabled American Veterans Scholarship: For current DAV members or those related to current DAV members, such as son, daughter, grandchild, great grandchild, nephew or niece. Must be a DAV member or high school senior accepted to a college, trade, vocational or technical school. Applicants from previous years may apply each year as they proceed through their education. Applications in Naviance. Due May 15.

Scholarship information
Students should see their counselor or visit the websites below for more information or an application.
Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts Scholarship: \$1,000 to qualified seniors who plan to further their education by attending a two or four-year college program. Applications in Naviance. Due March 15.
Walter S. Barr Scholarship:

For high school seniors from Hampden County. Awards will be based on all available information, including school records, recommendations and examination scores. Awards will be continued through the four-year course if the student’s record and need justify it. Consideration will be given to both the merit and financial need of the applicant. See horacesmithfund.org for details. Due March 15.

LOCAL

Opportunity

IS KNOCKING

STAFF WRITER POSITION

Turley Publications is seeking an energetic person to fill the position of staff writer for two of its weekly publications: the *Ware River News*, which covers Ware, Hardwick and Warren, and the *Quabog Current*, which covers the Brookfields, Sturbridge and New Braintree. This full-time position is based in our Ware office at 80 Main St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills or the enthusiasm to develop them. The staff writer will cover municipal meetings, features and general news; essentially everything that unfolds in small towns. Assignments will be for both newspapers as well as other companywide publications.

Qualifications should include:

• Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience

• Own camera and photography experience preferred

• Enthusiasm for community journalism

• Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced environment

Please email resume and three writing samples directly to Eileen Kennedy Managing Editor at ekennedy@turley.com.

Turley

Publications, Inc.

www.turley.com

Opinion

OUR VIEW

Let us vote early more often, by mail

With the threat of coronavirus hanging in the air, the League of Women Voters is asking state officials to allow absentee voting for everyone this spring.

Not only is this a good idea, but it would be a good idea even without a declared public health state of emergency.

As fears of spreading this new virus are causing organizers to cancel public gatherings throughout the state — from high school sports games to classes at Harvard University to the Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade — the League of Women Voters is worried that some folks may stay home from the polls for health reasons this spring, when many towns are deciding races for local officials, and Agawam is participating in a contested March 31 special election for state senator.

The solution they suggest is to allow people to vote by mail. Those who cannot make it to the polls on Election Day because they will be out of town, or because of a legitimate medical or religious restriction, have always been able to request absentee ballots, which they can mail or hand-deliver to the town clerk anytime before the polls close, even days or weeks ahead of time.

Until recently, those who simply preferred to vote by mail were out of luck if they did not qualify for an absentee ballot. Then, four years ago, the state instituted early voting for presidential and gubernatorial elections. This included both extended polling hours in the week before the election, and a mail-in option that was essentially the same thing as absentee voting, but without the restrictions on participation. Agawam recently enjoyed another round of early voting, as the program was expanded this year to include the presidential primary election.

If we're going to allow early voting in some elections, why not all?

It's understandable if the state wants to restrict in-person early voting to just the marquee elections, such as those when the president or the governor are on the ballot. Local town clerk budgets bear a heavy cost for hiring poll workers, wardens and police details for one or two full weeks of all-day voting, and the polling place takes up valuable space in a public building for days on end. But none of those arguments apply to early voting by mail.

Granted, an expansion of early voting by mail would also create some more work for the town clerk's office and poll workers, as each mailed ballot must be processed, filed by precinct, stored securely, and then unsealed and cast at the appropriate polling station on Election Day. But these tasks could be absorbed into the ordinary workday of the clerk's staff and the staff already on duty at each precinct polling place, just as they are for absentee ballots.

It's clear that state officials think early voting is a good thing, and turnout figures show that many voters do, too. Early voting and vote-by-mail are becoming standard features in states across the nation — not because we fear catching an illness at the polls, but because they're so convenient for busy voters.

Massachusetts already has the procedures in place to extend a form of voting convenience to every election, at a relatively low cost. It's a good prescription regardless of what's ailing us this season.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.



COMMENTARY

Springing ahead in Daylight Saving Time

When Daylight Saving Time arrived early last Sunday morning, it was protocol to put our clocks ahead one hour. Did you really "Spring ahead?"

During this 2020 Leap Year, especially with that extra day added to the natural calendar, did you jump for joy about the time change? Or, like many of us, did the next morning find you measuring out extra scoops of coffee grounds into the morning-blend brew maker? (And, then, of course, you added several scoops of an energy-burst sweetener, instead of using one teaspoon.)

One wonders if across our earth's Northern Hemisphere gazillions of clock changers climbed their walls in an hourly exercise? Were they able to run, like clockwork — from room to room pushing all time-measuring instruments one hour ahead? Sometimes, changing clocks, in a home, a school, a business, in a timely manner doesn't always happen.

We can only imagine the conversations after losing an hour's sleep. Or, do we have to imagine?

"Our days aren't long enough. Why take an hour away?" overheard at breakfast time Mumble Grumbles.



Joan E. B. Coombs

"I'm not late for school. The car clock's wrong."

It's not Monday morning already — is it?"

"What's the REAL time?"

"Daylight Savings Time-Why are they saving it, and where do they keep it?" proclaimed by Mr. Anonymous.

"Spring Ahead" is a mnemonic phrase that helps us to remember when Daylight Saving Time marches ahead. "Fall behind" is another axiom that helps us to remind when Daylight Savings Time retreats toward autumn and winter months.

"Losing an hour's sleep means that getting up in the morning is often a matter of mind over mattress. Gaining an hour of daylight, in an evening, is always a matter of enjoying hours of extended twilight," says me.

Some may feel that our "Spring forward" has sprung. Winter weighed in. Our bounce-per-ounce of energy was totally depleted during this extra Leap Year day plunge. Take courage. Springing ahead in Daylight Saving Time happens only once a year. Until fall. Then it's autumn-matic.

Our Back Pages

From yesteryear's editions of the Agawam Advertiser News, compiled by Michael Ballway.

A year ago: The chairman of Agawam's Relay for Life announced, this week in 2019, that the event wouldn't be held later that year. The Relay, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, had been an annual fixture since 2012, rising more than \$400,000 in that time, but Janine Iacolo said there weren't enough volunteers to organize a 2019 event. She said she hoped to bring it back in 2020 or 2021.

Five years ago: The City Council voted to raise several Fire Department fees March 16, 2015, including instituting the town's first-ever fee for outdoor burning

permits. The new cost schedule was suggested by Fire Chief Alan Sirois, who noted that inspection fees had not changed in 20 years. The new \$10 burning fee, which is still in effect five years later, covers all permitted fires over the course of a burning season.

Ten years ago: Rain barrels, a flop when first offered in 2007, have become a hot item, Public Works Department employee Tracy DeMaio said in the March 18, 2010, Agawam Advertiser News. The 60-gallon barrels, sold by the DPW, collect rainwater for later use watering plants, reducing the strain on the public water supply. DeMaio said the reason for their growing popularity may have been a change in color from bright blue to a terra-cotta tone.

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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Out & About

Out & About is a community calendar for Agawam and neighboring towns. Free listings are available for non-commercial, non-political entertainment or educational events that are free to attend, or fundraisers that benefit a non-profit organization. Only events in Agawam or one of its immediate bordering towns, or events that benefit an organization based in Agawam, will be listed. Submitted items should be brief, with only time, date, location, activity explanation, and contact information, and may be edited for length and style. Items may be sent to aan@turley.com, faxed to 413-283-7107 or mailed to Agawam Advertiser News, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. The deadline for calendar listings is noon Friday, the week before that Thursday's newspaper.

Saturday, March 14
KIDS' USED CLOTHING EXCHANGE at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. All are invited to "shop" for free gently used items donated by neighbors in this Agawam Zero Waste Club, Agawam High School SAVE Club and National Honor Society event. More info: helgathehen@gmail.com or Nancy Bobskill, 413-285-2182.

TRADING POST BAG SALE at First Baptist Church of Agawam, 760 Main St., Agawam, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Shoppers can fill a bag for \$5 from a wide selection of items.

Saturday, March 21
PARISH AUCTION at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, 1-4 p.m. Preview begins at noon. Items available include gift baskets, gift cards, sports memorabilia, crafts, toys and more. All are welcome; admission and parking are free. More info: 413-786-6133 or www.stdavidsagawam.org.

STORYTELLER JO RADNER in the Buxton Room at First Church of Christ, 763 Longmeadow St., Longmeadow. Radner, an accomplished storyteller, author and historian, will perform as part of the church's free Storytelling on the Green series. Future performers include Andrea Lovett on April 19 and Diane Edgecomb on May 17. All adults and

Agawam Senior Center

The Senior Center at 954 Main St., Agawam, is open weekdays, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, call 413-821-0605. Lunch is served daily at 11:30 a.m. for a \$3 suggested donation; diners must register 24 hours in advance at 413-821-0604.

Lunch Menu
Monday, March 16: Potato crusted fish, rice pilaf, green beans, fresh apple.
Tuesday, March 17: Mulligan's stew, biscuit, Caesar salad, fruit cocktail.
Wednesday, March 18: Chicken marsala, mashed potatoes, dilled carrots, pudding.
Thursday, March 19: Low sodium hot dog, coleslaw, baked beans, peaches.
Friday, March 20: St. Patrick's Day Luncheon — corned beef and cabbage, Irish soda bread, carrots and potatoes.

Daily Events
Monday, March 16: Yoga (\$6), 8:15 a.m.; line dancing (\$3), 9:45 a.m.; chair yoga (\$6), 11:30 a.m.; bridge group, 12:30 p.m.; bingo, 1 p.m.; Zumba Gold (\$6), 5:30 p.m.; intermediate line dancing (\$1), 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 17: Weight training, 8:30

a.m.; knitting, 9 a.m.; Zumba Gold (\$6), 10:15 a.m.; ladies billiards, noon; Senior Cinemas ("How About You"), 12:30 p.m.; mah jongg, 12:30 p.m.; dominoes, 12:30 p.m.; canasta, 1 p.m.; writing group, 1:30 p.m.; yoga (\$6), 4:30 p.m.; Junior Women's Club, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, March 18: Yoga (\$6), 8:15 a.m.; gentle yoga (\$6), 9:45 a.m.; bereavement group, 10 a.m.; meet the mayor, 10:30 a.m.; bridge, 12:30 p.m.; ballroom lesson (see staff), 1 p.m.; Golden Agers Chapter 2 meeting, 1:30 p.m.; Zumba Gold (\$6), 5:30 p.m.; Tobacco Valley Artists, 6 p.m.
Thursday, March 19: Weight training, 8:30 a.m.; foot care by appointment, 8:30 a.m.; quilting, 9 a.m.; Wii Sports, 10:15 a.m.; reiki (\$10), 10:30 a.m.; bridge, 12:15 p.m.; dominoes, 12:30 p.m.; open art, 1 p.m.; intermediate line dancing (\$1), 5:30 p.m.
Friday, March 20: Yin Yoga (\$6), 8:15 a.m.; Let's Paint (\$10), 9:15 a.m.; tai chi (\$6), 10 a.m.; St. Patrick's luncheon with music by Glenshane Irish folk duo, 11:30 a.m.; canasta, 1 p.m.; cornhole, 1 p.m.; cribbage, 1 p.m.; card games, 1 p.m.; "beyond beginner" line dancing (\$1), 6 p.m.

children over 12 are welcome. More info: www.1stchurchlongmeadow.org, 413-567-6287.

Wednesday, March 25
ABIGAIL ADAMS history presentation in the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main St., Agawam, 7 p.m. Sheryl Faye will perform as the former first lady in this free presentation, part of the Agawam Historical Association member meeting. All are invited to attend. Sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council.

Friday, April 3
"LIVES WELL LIVED" FILM SCREENING at Glenmeadow, 24 Tabor Crossing, Longmeadow, 1:30

p.m. Through their intimate memories and inspiring personal histories, 40 adults aged 75-100 share their secrets and insights into leading a meaningful life. Presented in partnership with the Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival.

JAZZ STANDARDS CONCERT at the Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, 7 p.m. This free performance by Too Human is part of the Applause Series of free performances sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council. Too Human plays fresh arrangements of jazz classics, including the Great American Songbook. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. More info: www.agawamcc.org.

Tuesday, April 14

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CANNABIS at Storowton Carriage House, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, 10 a.m. to noon. Speakers from Insa in Easthampton will discuss medical and recreational marijuana, what CBD is, why people use cannabis and how it can be ingested and smoked, as well as the benefits and risks. Part of the Glenmeadow Spring Learning Series.

ONGOING

NAMI CONNECTION, a free, peer-led support group for adults who are concerned about their mental health, meets Thursdays, 2-4 p.m., in the NAMI Western Massachusetts office at 324A Springfield St., Agawam. For more information, call 413-786-9139 or email information@namiwm.org.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS can help with eating problems. Meetings are held throughout Western Massachusetts, including regular meetings in Agawam. There are no dues, fees, weigh-ins or special foods to buy. All are welcome. For more information, call Springfield Answering Services at 413-783-4198 or Marcia at 703-415-6744, or visit www.oawmass.org.

THE TRADING POST consignment shop is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at First Baptist Church, 760 Main St., Agawam. The Trading Post carries a variety of items, including clothes, shoes, handbags, jewelry, books, toys, household and gift items. Donations are welcomed during store hours.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the second Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. in the Peirce Conference Room at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandlin at rosemarysandlin@gmail.com.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers a free "Crochet Club" the first and third Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. All are invited to join, including men and women and beginners to experienced crocheters. Drop-ins welcome. Hooks and yarn available if needed. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

Our Town

Birchall joins Ayre Real Estate Co.

Kathryn Ayre, president, recently announced that Wendy Birchall has joined Ayre Real Estate Co. of Agawam. After closing a boutique retail business she solely owned and operated for several years, Birchall has decided to enter real estate as her next career. "I have always found real estate engaging," said Birchall. "Whether it was keeping an eye on the local housing market, or peering into interior design websites for the newest trends, it has always been an interest of mine."

Birchall has a bachelor of science degree in rehabilitation and a master of science degree in exercise science from Springfield College, and has held numerous management and trainer positions in the fitness and wellness industry. Her goal is to use the interpersonal and business skills she acquired in her previous vocations to create a relationship with clientele that allows their housing needs and dreams to become her action plan. Birchall can be reached at 413-789-0812, ext. 123.

Deputy chief graduates from training

The Agawam Fire Department's deputy chief, Frank Matuszczak, was one of 37 fire service leaders who graduated last month from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's Chief Fire Officer Management Training Program. This 14-week program was developed in accordance with National Fire Protection Association standards for senior fire officers. It is delivered jointly by the Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management at the University of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. It is a comprehensive course providing training in the non-fire suppression aspects of managing fire departments. "These fire service leaders are com-



Frank Matuszczak

mitted to continually develop their management and leadership skills in order to provide the highest level of service to the communities they protect," commented state Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey. The curriculum includes human resource management, ethics, executive leadership and legal issues, governmental and organization structures, information management, customer-focused strategic planning, legal aspects, budgets and public finance, community awareness and labor relations. The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, a division of the state Department of Fire Services, offers this program tuition-free.

AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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Ship work



Agawam resident Aimee Theroux, an aviation electronics technician in the U.S. Navy, tests a CASS station in the radar shop of the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt on Feb. 16. The Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group is on a scheduled deployment to the Indo-Pacific. Theroux is a 2017 graduate of Agawam High School. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY PYOUNG K. YI / U.S. NAVY

LHQ certified for dance studio safety

LHQ Danceforce & Wellness Studio has become the first dance studio in the region to achieve Youth Protection Advocates in Dance certification. The certification marks its commitment to keeping kids happy, healthy and safe in dance. YPAD is the nation's only dance certification program focusing on both safety and wellness for dance students. The certification includes background checks, CPR and first aid, abuse awareness and prevention, injury prevention and response, and emergency preparedness, as well as social media safety, body image, nutrition, eating disorders, bullying and conflict resolution.

"We want to do more than just teach great dance at LHQ Danceforce & Wellness Studio," said studio owner Lynn Hadden-Quinn. "We want to help develop healthy, happy dancers with an environment that focuses on the well-being of kids. Of course, this also helps us contribute to a sustainable, safe future for dance overall." LHQ is in its 27th year and offers classes for all ages, from parent-and-tot classes to adult hip-hop and tap. YPAD was founded in Los Angeles in 2012 by hip-hop professional Leslie Scott Zanolvitch and her husband Joseph Zanolvitch.

Valentine's church supper, teenage singer a 'smash hit'

Over 70 attendees enjoyed the Supper Club's elegant Valentine's evening on Saturday, Feb. 22, at Agawam Congregational Church.

Partners Restaurant of Feeding Hills catered the dinner, which also featured door prizes and a performance by West Springfield's Alexis Anamisis who was hailed with a standing ovation after her solo, debut performance.

"The whole evening was a smash hit... from the decorations, food, door prizes, entertainment and cooperation from Mother Nature with no snow storm," said Roberta Page, a church member and chairman of the Supper Club.

She said the dinner series has included several well-attended events, and organizers are looking forward to the next themed supper catered by an Agawam restaurant.



Gail Demers of Agawam enjoyed a few dance steps with Agawam Congregational Church member Matthew Blackak at the Feb. 22 Supper Club. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ROBERTA PAGE



15-year-old Alexis Anamisis of West Springfield entertained the audience. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ROBERTA PAGE



Agawam Congregational Church Supper Club Chairman Roberta Page stands with vocalist Alexis Anamisis. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Agawam Congregational Church member David Christian assisted with the final dishwashing clean-up. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ROBERTA PAGE



Left: Partners Restaurant staff catered last month's Agawam Congregational Church Supper Club. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ROBERTA PAGE



Above: Attendees enjoyed the Agawam Congregational Church Supper Club event on Feb. 22nd. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ROBERTA PAGE



Right: Chocolate mousse dessert was served in tall champagne glasses. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ROBERTA PAGE

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Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

SPORTS

WRESTLING

Ramos places at New England championship meet

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

It's always a special moment for an Agawam wrestler to go from the state tournament, to the all-state tournament, to possibly competing in the New England tournament.

For the first time in many years, an Agawam wrestler would actually place at the New England tournament as Antonio Ramos, son of coach Armando Ramos managed to take fifth place at the New England Wrestling Tournament held on March 7 right in Massachusetts, at Methuen High School out near Boston.

Ramos would also place first at the all-state tournament, winning his first all-state tournament as a junior.

Ramos, who has always been a heavyweight during his high school career, suffered an injury during his freshman year, cutting his run short at the state tournament. He returned last year to have an excellent season.

This year, his dominance, winning a Western Mass. Tournament and the Division 1 state tournament, brought him all the way to New England's.

The all-state meet was a grueling experience against the best wrestlers representing all three divisions.

He was the top seed in the all-state tournament and won his first match at New England by a 9-3 decision. In his second match, he captured a win by pinfall, winning after grabbing a takedown.

In the semifinal round, he outlasted Manny Rosado, a grappler from Walpole High School by a



Antonio Ramos competes during the regular season. Ramos made it all the way to placing fifth at the New England Championships this year. He was a Western Mass., State, and all-State winner this year. FILE PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
Inset: Antonio Ramos and teammate Harrison Mendrala celebrate their Western Mass. titles last month with coach Armando Ramos. SUBMITTED PHOTO

3-1 decision to reach the finals.

In that match, it was tight throughout, but he edged Tyrek Williams by a slim 2-1 decision to capture the All-State title.

At New England, Ramos' all-state win would net him a bye from the round of 32 and he met his first opponent, winning by

pinfall just before time expired in the first period.

He then lost in his second match, and won two matches in the consolation bracket before losing in the consolation semifinals against a somewhat familiar opponent, Travis Kemp, a wrestler from Division 3 Quabbin

Regional High School in Barre. Kemp would go on to fall in the consolation final, while Ramos would be placed in the fifth-place match, and he defeated Josh Orzoria by pinfall with just three seconds remaining in the match for the win.

Ramos will have an opportu-

nity to increase his standing at the New England Championships next year as he competes in his senior season. Ramos has also played football during his high school career as a lineman, but has recently put his full concentration on wrestling during the past year.

BASKETBALL

Moccio to represent AHS as all-star

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame announced today the team rosters for the 2020 Western Massachusetts Senior High School All-Star Games. The 2020 All-Star event will be held on Thursday, March 19 on the Jerry Colangelo Court of Dreams at the Hall of Fame. A total of 61 players were selected from different divisions within the region to participate in three games that will showcase the top seniors in their final high school contest.

“The Western Mass All-Star game is an annual tradition of great pride for the Basketball Hall of Fame. Located in the Birthplace of Basketball, we are pleased to recognize dozens of talented players who have excelled throughout their high school careers in Western Mass,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. “We invite the local community to come out and support these outstanding student-athletes.”

This year, Agawam will be rep-



Zach Moccio will be Agawam's representative in the Senior All-Star Game next Thursday night. PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM

resented by boys basketball player Zach Moccio. He will play for Team 2 in the final game of the night featuring Division 1 and 2 players.

A committee made up of local coaches and media members that

represent each division on the boys and girls side selected the teams. The players will be divided into six teams: two girls teams, two boys teams of Division III and IV players and two boys teams of Division I and II players. Only graduating seniors are eligible for the All-Star Games. Rosters can be found in the attached release.

For the 10th year, the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame will recognize one boy and one girl as the Western Massachusetts Players of the Year. A special presentation will be made to the recipients during halftime. A panel of local media members selects the award winners, who are recognized for their achievements on the court, in addition to their sportsmanship and character off the court.

The three All-Star Games will be held on Thursday, March 19. The first game of the evening will feature the Division III and IV boys' teams at 5:30 p.m., followed by the girls' matchup at 7 p.m. The

HOCKEY

T-Birds get much-needed win over Wolf Pack

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (31-27-3-0) outlasted the Hartford Wolf Pack (31-19-6-5) in a spirited Sunday afternoon matinee by a final count of 4-1 inside the MassMutual Center.

At the 6:50 mark of the first, after both teams failed on earlier power play chances, the game devolved into a powder keg when Ryan Haggerty and Darren Rad-dysh wrestled one another to the ice. Moments later, every other skater on the ice picked a sparring partner in a no-holds-barred brawl. By the time the dust settled, Vinni Lettieri and Mason Geertsen of Hartford were ejected, and Brady Keeper received a similar punishment for Springfield.

After the lengthy delay to sort out the mess, the T-Birds finally got to the scoreboard first at 12:40 of the first as Joel Lowry located a loose puck outside the blue paint and knocked it past Adam Huska as he was falling. Rodrigo Abols and Chase Priskie picked up the

helpers to give Springfield the 1-0 lead, which stood into the intermission.

After he served penalty time from the brawl, Matt Beleskey emerged from the box only to land back in the sin bin for five minutes when he boarded Will Lochead late in the first period.

Despite having all that man-up time, the T-Birds could not take advantage of the power play, and shortly after killing the duration of the penalty to start the second, Ryan Dmowski got Hartford back even at 3:53 of the middle period off assists from Ty Ronning and Nick Ebert.

On a day when the two teams combined for nine successful penalty kills, the T-Birds finally broke the tie with three final period goals. Priskie scooped up his second point of the night at 6:12 as Daniel Audette found him from the left-wing side after a turnover by Hartford in its own zone.

Public Notices

AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Aspenwood Associates LLC for a Definitive Subdivision Plan for property at 673 Silver Street.

By Order of
Mark R. Paleologopoulos
Chairman
AGAWAM
PLANNING BOARD
3/5, 3/12/20

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD20P0425GD In the matter of: **Amber A Bessone** Of: **Feeding Hills, MA** **RESPONDENT** Alleged Incapacitated Person

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Dept. Of Developmental Services** of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Amber A Bessone** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Melissa Mattice** of Springfield, MA

Joshua Matlice of Springfield, MA

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM. on the return date of **03/30/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First

Justice of this Court.

Date: March 02, 2020

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
3/12/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD20P0392EA Estate of:

Anita Marie Bednarz
Also known as:
Anita M. Bednarz
Date of Death: **07/07/2017**
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Tracy E. Mutti** of Feeding Hills MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Tracy E. Mutti** of Feeding Hills MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **03/25/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 26, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
3/12/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD14P1201PM In the interests of: **James J D'Amato** Of: **Agawam, MA** **RESPONDENT** Incapacitated Person/ Protected Person CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE

POWERS OF A CONSERVATOR

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **William P D'Amato** of Easthampton, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Conservator of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding.

If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **03/26/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 27, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
3/12/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-8600 Docket No. HD20P0342EA Estate of:

Sarah Michelle Phelps
Date of Death:
09/29/2018
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **James Phelps** of Southwick, MA.

James Phelps of Southwick, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested

parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
3/12/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD87P0419EA Estate of:

Appio Sapelli
Date of Death: **01/01/1987**
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
APPOINTMENT OF
SUCCESSOR PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by: **Ann M Sapelli** of Feeding Hills, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that **Ann M. Sapelli** of Feeding Hills MA be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on **03/31/2020**.

This Is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court,

but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 02, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
3/12/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD09P2301GD In the Interests of: **Amber Bessone** Of: **Feeding Hills, MA** **RESPONDENT** Incapacitated Person/ Protected Person CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF A GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Department of Developmental Services** of Palmer, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Terminate the Guardianship of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM. on the return date of **03/30/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return

date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 02, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
3/12/2020

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT Hampden Division Docket No. HD13P0814EA SALE OF REAL ESTATE Estate of **John J. Moriarty** Of **Chicopee, in the County of Hampden, a protected person** **NOTICE**

A petition has been presented to said Court for leave to transfer and convey at private sale certain real estate of said protected person, situated in Agawam, for his maintenance.

If you desire to object to the allowance of said petition, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at Springfield on or before 10:00 in the forenoon on March 23, 2020.

WITNESS, BARBARA M. HYLAND, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at Springfield, the twenty-fourth day of February two thousand and twenty.

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate & Family
Court Dept.

3/12/2020

T-BIRDS ■ from page 9

With the 2-1 lead in tow into the final minutes, Abols added to the lead at 18:15, as a left-circle shot hit the post, then pinned in off of Ebert to give Springfield a 3-1 advantage.

Danick Martel, who assisted on the Abols goal, then added one of his own with just 34 seconds remaining, his third goal in two games, to round out the scoring. Philippe Desrosiers was magnificent in the T-Birds net, stopping 34 of 35 to pick up his 16th win.

Springfield and Hartford rematch inside the MassMutual Center on Friday night at 7:05 p.m.

ALL-STAR ■ from page 9

final game of the evening will showcase the Division I and II boys' teams at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets for the All-Star games will be available at the Hall of Fame box office the night of the event and will be good for all three games that evening (Adults: \$10, Students: \$5).



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Umass baseball clinics offered

Reynolds Baseball Clinics @ Earl Lorden Field on the Campus of UMass – Registration opens soon!

Baseball clinics at UMass, operated by Head Baseball Coach Matt Reynolds and the coaching staff of UMass, are a great way to learn and develop your baseball skills this summer!

Our first summer clinic is a 2-day youth clinic designed for players on the little league diamond (9am-4pm, each day, ages 8-12). This clinic is a blend of skills development and games. Also included is lunch each day in one of UMass’ #1 nationally rated dining halls! This is true UMass experience designed to be both educational and fun!

Our High School aged clinic is a 1-day

event designed to be a blend of skill development and an opportunity to showcase one’s skills in front of the entire staff at UMass. This event features instructional and showcase sessions in the morning and a live game in the afternoon. Like our youth clinic, lunch on campus is included at no additional charge!

Look for registration soon at <http://collegebaseballcamps.com/minuteman/>

Please check out the additional camp/clinic offerings throughout the year as well!

Reynolds Baseball can also offer customized experiences for youth teams, leagues and organizations. Please inquire at reynolds@umass.edu

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Belchertown Kidz Club is partnering with community and families to build our children’s futures. Creative hands on approaches and personalized support help shape the development of all of our unique learners from Preschool through 6th grade. Come grow, learn, and play with us!

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*We follow the Belchertown school schedule.
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at our **OPEN HOUSE** • Sat., March 28th, 10am-2pm

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July 6 - August 14



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Camp MacDuffie offers six weeks of exciting camp experiences:

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Week 2: July 13 - 17	Week 5: August 3 - 7
Week 3: July 20 - 24	Week 6: August 10 - 14

Camp programs include:
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Monday-Friday 9am-3pm • Area field trips and lunch included
Additional morning and afternoon hours available
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The Arbors Camp is gearing up for another season in the sun. From exploring nature and science to playing sports and games and creating art and music, The Arbors Camp gives kids amazing opportunities to learn, play and create. Summer camp is an unforgettable experience that is the beginning of many lifelong friendships. Start getting excited now.

The Arbors Camps in Chicopee and East Longmeadow are open to kids ages 5-12. Visit arborskids.com for more information.



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Belchertown Day School

Are you looking for a fun filled way for your child to make lasting friendships this summer? Do you need quality childcare at an affordable price? Is your child looking to broaden their horizons and try new things? Are you looking for an enriching learning experience for your child? Belchertown Summer Fun, a school age program run by Belchertown Day School, has something for everyone!

Children will participate in weekly sports, swimming, crafts, drama, science, cooking, water play and nature activities. Exciting field trips and special visitors will also be offered throughout the summer. Each week will have its own unique theme, such as Shark Week, The Great Outdoors, Magical Creatures and Escape the Heat! Fridays are extra special dress-up days with lots of fun activities.

Children will have the opportunity to try everything at our program, and then get to pick specific interests to build skills on a daily basis. There's something for everyone at Belchertown Summer Fun!

Care is offered from 7:00am until 5:30pm daily. Schedules are flexible. Call Belchertown Day School at (413) 323-8108 for more information.

Join us to make an ordinary summer extraordinary!



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- Soccer June 29th – July 3rd
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Greenfield, MA

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SUMMER CAMPS

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July 27 - July 31
August 17 - August 21
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Monday-Friday 9 am - 1 pm (early drop off available)
NOW OFFERING 1 week sessions starting July 6th

Drop your kids off for a morning of non-stop fun! Our program includes gymnastics instruction, games, outside activities, arts and crafts, and slip-n-slide! They will love our trampolines, air pit, balance beams, rings and rock wall! Price \$200 week. Call our office or go online for more information.

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Gorse Children's Center Summer Explorations--Preschool & School Age (K-3rd) Summer Programs. Open House April 8, 3:30-5:30. Gorse Children's Center, 27 Morgan Street, South Hadley, 413-538-3351, gorse@brighthorizons.com.

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91 Claudia's Way Ludlow, MA 01056
413-583-2072

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June 22nd - August 14th

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EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Thursday, April 16th & Tuesday, April 28th
9:00am - 2:00pm

Thursday, April 23rd & Monday, May 4th
6:00pm - 7:30pm

\$160 per week/per child - Ludlow Resident
\$170 per week/per child - Non-resident

No Appointment Necessary/No Additional Discounts

Must pay in Full or Use Auto Debit

General Registration

Friday, May 15th 9:00-2:00PM
Wednesday, May 20th 6:00-7:30PM
Thursday, May 28th 6:00-7:30PM

\$180 per week/per child: Ludlow Resident
\$190 per week/per child: Non-Resident

\$50 registration fee will be waived with pay in full or auto debit option.

Space is Limited

Must bring a voided check or bank letter for auto debit

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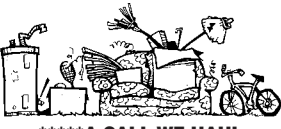
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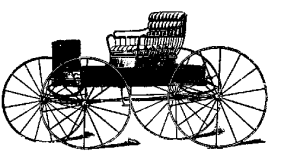
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Town of Ludlow

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Science fair puts students' science knowledge on display

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Aaron Dobies is only in second grade, but he's already fascinated with outer space. It came as no surprise last week that his project for the Clark School's annual Science Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) Fair last week was space-related.

One of 41 kindergarten through grade 4 students who created exhibits or displays for the fair, Aaron researched the planets Uranus and Neptune, often re-

ferred to as the "ice giants" because of their distance from the sun. His exhibit not only featured facts about the two planets, but also models of Neptune and Uranus, the only major planets in our solar system that aren't easily visible in the sky.

"The fair is a great way to bring more science and engineering to our students in a way they can investigate, research, and explore topics that interest them," said Tammy Rumpalik, the school's science teacher.

She added that the fair also is "a great way" for families to get involved with

what their children are doing in STEAM class.

"Parents and grandparents often work on and support students to complete their projects," she said. "This is a great thing to get them to take an active role in their child's science and engineering education."

Rumpalik said the annual event is an opportunity for students to be proud

of their hard work on projects they made to display, present, and communicate their learning to their peers and other members of the community.

The fair was held from 6 to 7 p.m. last Thursday in the school's gym. When it ended, students who participated received a science fair medal and a brick building kit of their choosing.



Science teacher Tammy Rumpalik places a science fair medal around the neck of Clark School kindergartner Palak Kalal, 6, while her twin sister Parinidhi watches. For her science fair project, Palak drew a picture illustrating the evolution of a butterfly, while Parinidhi drew a picture showing the parts of a flower.



Rexanash Pandey points to some of the ocean animals he put in his "aquarium." The kindergartner created his science project using a box and some clear plastic wrap. PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Black panthers are Ava Goddard's favorite animal, so the third grader made a display with interesting facts about what she called beautiful and mysterious animals.



MaKayla Chmura points to cups filled with sweet, bitter, salty and sour types of food snacks for her project about the tongue. The second grader said it was fun to learn about taste and the different parts of the tongue.



Above: Fourth graders Owen Kempey, 9, left, and Franco Sibilia, 10, show off the prizes they received for participating in the science fair at Clark School last week.

Right: Third grader Brody Martin holds up a jar containing water, corn syrup and food coloring for an experiment he created to compare the density of different liquids. Once they settled, the densest liquid was at the bottom of the jar while the least dense one floated to the top.



Aaron Dobies spins the planet Neptune in his display at the Clark School's annual science fair last Thursday. The second grader is fascinated with outer space and likes to read books on the subject.



Johnathan Grechka used dry ice to make a "fog tornado" for his science project. The second grader said because so many kids do volcanoes for science fairs, he decided to create a tornado.



Kindergarten through grade 4 students who participated in this year's STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) Fair at Clark School pose on the stage with Principal Shelley Russell, left, and science teacher Tammy Rumpalik, second from left.

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